

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A method of assembling appliances, comprising:

providing a plurality of structurally identical base units with identical electrical components;

providing a plurality of control consoles with at least one different control feature between the
consoles;

selecting a first control console from the plurality of consoles; and

mounting the first control console onto one of the base units to create a first model of the
appliance wherein the base unit of the first model includes a first electrical ~~components~~
component which is not electrically connected to the first control console;

selecting a second control console from the plurality of consoles with control features different
from the first control console;

mounting the second control console on a second of the base units to create a second model of
the appliance with the first electrical component of the base unit being electrically
connected to the second control console; and

the first and second consoles being interchangeable on the base units to create first and second
appliance models.

Claim 2 (Cancelled)

Claim 3 (Previously presented): The method of claim 1 wherein all electrical components of
the base unit are electrically connected to the second control console.

Claim 4 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the console selection is made by a consumer.

Claim 5 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the console mounting is done at a retail establishment.

Claim 6 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the console mounting is done by an appliance dealer.

Claim 7 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the console mounting is done at a regional warehouse.

Claim 8 (Original): A method of assembling an appliance, comprising:
allowing a purchaser to select a control console from a plurality of consoles each having different control features for operating components in a base unit; and
then mounting the selected control console onto the base unit to create the assembled appliance.

Claim 9 (Original): The method of claim 8 wherein the mounting is done at a retail establishment.

Claim 10 (Original): The method of claim 8 wherein the mounting is done at the purchaser's home.

Claim 11 (Original): The method of claim 8 wherein the mounting is done by a dealer representative.

Claim 12 (Original): The method of claim 8 further comprising upgrading the appliance by removing the selected control console and mounting a second selected control console having additional control features.

Claim 13 (Original): The method of claim 8 wherein the console mounting is done at a regional warehouse.

Claim 14 (Previously presented): An appliance, comprising:
a base unit;
electrical components in the base unit for performing functions of the appliance;
a control console mounted on the base unit and being electrically connected to selected electrical components in the base unit to control operation of the selected components;
the control console being selected from a group of consoles each having different control features; and
base unit being universal so as to function with all the consoles in the group of consoles.

Claim 15 (Previously presented): The appliance of claim 14 wherein the group of consoles includes a first console with first controls and a second console with second controls, and the first and second consoles being interchangeably mounted on the base unit to create

first and second appliance models having at least one functional difference between the models.